

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An optical member made of silica glass manufactured by the direct method where a material gas comprising an organosilicon compound is allowed to react in an oxidizing flame,

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said optical member having a  $2 \times 10^{14}$  molecules/cm<sup>3</sup> or less concentration of formyl radical generated by X-ray irradiation whose dose is 0.01 Mrad or more and 1 Mrad or less.